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United States Senate

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

(PURSUANT TO S. RES. 400, 97TH CONGRESS)

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

September 14, 1982

The Honorable John Tower
 Chairman
 Committee on Armed Services
 United States Senate
 Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear John:

Earlier this month, [REDACTED], was nominated to serve as Director of the Intelligence Community Staff. Subsequent to that nomination, Bill Casey, Director of Central Intelligence, wrote me in my capacity as Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence to propose legislation which would allow a senior flag or general officer to serve as either the Director or the Deputy Director of the Intelligence Community Staff without otherwise occupying a senior officer billet authorized for the military services. If passed, this legislation would allow [REDACTED] or anyone else in his situation, to wear a third star without this counting against the military services' senior officer billets.

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John, I have no problem with the Director of the Intelligence Community Staff wearing three stars. It seems to me appropriate that military flag or general rank officers serving in these two positions on the Intelligence Community Staff should have the requisite rank to go with their position. However, I don't think we can wait until we get Director Casey's legislation passed on this issue. After all, [REDACTED] is scheduled to take over his responsibilities in the near future. Therefore, I would urge that this matter be expedited.

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It is my understanding that this issue will be raised today during markup of the Uniformed Services Pay Act of 1982 when seven additional flag officer positions will be added for the Navy --

The Honorable John Tower

Page Two

September 14, 1982

two of them being three star positions, one of which is intended to be used for the IC staff position. I would support this proposal, which I understand has been recommended by Senator Jepsen, and would urge that the Armed Services Committee pass on this approach as soon as possible. That way [redacted] can get his third star right away. Should we need to do any further work of a more permanent nature on this issue, we can do it within the context of the comprehensive flag and general officer review later this year or early next year.

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Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Barry Goldwater
Chairman